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Common Carrier Bureau Seeks Comment on North American Numbering Council Recommendation Concerning Feasibility of Number Portability of 500 and 900 Numbers

(CC Docket No. 95-116)

Comments due: August 27, 1999

Reply Comments due: September 15, 1999

On June 11, 1999, the North American Numbering Council (NANC) forwarded its recommendation to the Chief, Common Carrier Bureau, in response to the Commission s directive In the Matter of Local Number Portability, Second Memorandum Opinion and Order on Reconsideration, CC Docket 95-116, 13 FCC Rcd at 21204 (1998).

In the Second Memorandum Opinion and Order on Reconsideration, the Commission, in order to evaluate whether the public interest would be served by mandating 500 or 900 number portability for all carriers, seeks to determine whether number portability for the entire 500 and 900 number resource is technically feasible and how long would it take to develop and deploy the necessary network infrastructure to enable this functionality.

The NANC recommendation concludes that should 500/900 portability be implemented, a structure similar to the toll free systems management facility and data access points could be used. The NANC further reports that to administer such a system would require a neutral third party to manage and operate the centralized database. However, NANC concludes that a strong demand for such capability does not exist at this time. Further, the NANC states that the Commission should suspend consideration of the issue due to a lack of demand for such a capability, and that to design, develop and operate such a system would be costly. We seek comments on the NANC recommendation. An electronic copy

of the NANC report is available on the Internet at

http://www.fcc.gov/ccb/Nanc/NANCCorr.htm

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Patrick Forster or Jeannie Grimes at (202) 418-2320 or via the Internet at pforster@fcc.gov or

jgrimes@fcc.gov. The address is: Network Services Division, Common Carrier Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, The Portals II, 445 Twelfth Street, S.W., Suite 6A320, Washington, D.C. 20554. The fax number is: (202) 418-2345. The TTY number is: (202) 418-0484.

We seek comment on the NANC report and recommendation. **Comments should be filed by August 27, 1999** and **reply comments are due by September 15, 1999**. This proceeding is treated as permit-but-disclose for purposes of the Commission's *ex parte* rules. *See* 47 C.F.R. 1.1206.

Comments may be filed using the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) or by filing paper copies. *See Electronic Filing of Documents in Rulemaking Proceedings*, 63 Fed. Reg. 24,121 (1998). Comments filed through the ECFS can be sent as an electronic file via the Internet to http://www.fcc.gov/e-file/ecfs.html. Generally, only one copy of an electronic submission must be filed. In completing the transmittal screen, commenters should include their full name, Postal Service mailing address, and the applicable docket or rulemaking number, which in this instance is CC Docket No. 99-200. Parties may also submit an electronic comment by Internet e-mail. To get filing instructions for e-mail comments, commenters should send an e-mail to ecfs@fcc.gov, and should include the following words in the body of the message, "get form <your e-mail address>." A sample form and directions will be sent in reply.

Parties who choose to file by paper must file an original and four copies of each filing. All filings must be sent to the Commission's Secretary, Magalie Roman Salas, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, 445 Twelfth Street, S.W. Room TW-B204F, Washington, D.C. 20554. Parties who choose to file by paper should also submit their comments on diskette. These diskettes should be submitted to Jeannie Grimes, Common Carrier Bureau, Network Services Division, 445 Twelfth Street, S.W., Room 6-A423, Washington, D.C. 20554. Such a submission should be on a 3.5 inch diskette formatted in an IBM compatible format using WordPerfect 5.1 for Windows or compatible software. The diskette should be accompanied by a cover letter and should be submitted in "read only" mode. The diskette should be clearly labelled with: (1) the commenter's name, (2) proceeding (including the docket number), (3) type of pleading (comment or reply comment), (4) date of submission, and (5) the name of the electronic file on the diskette. The label should also include the following phrase "Disk Copy - Not an Original." Each diskette should contain only one party's pleading, preferably in a single electronic file. In addition, commenters must send diskette copies to the Commission's copy contractor, International Transcription Service, Inc., 1231 20th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20037.

Regardless of whether parties choose to file electronically or by paper, parties should also file one copy of any documents filed in this docket with the Commission's copy contractor, International Transcription Services, Inc., **1231**

20th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036. Comments and reply comments will be available for public inspection during regular business hours in the FCC Reference Center, 445 12th Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20554.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jeannie Grimes or Patrick Forster, Network Services Division, Common Carrier Bureau, at (202) 418-2320. The fax number for the Network Services Division is: (202) 418-2345; the Division's TTY number is: (202) 418-0484.

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